

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

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Please insert the following new paragraph on page 2 after line 13 and before line 14.

--Figure 6 is an outline diagram of a dispersion management system in accordance with one embodiment of the invention.--

Please replace the paragraph at page 4, lines 10-16, with the following amended paragraph.

--The technique of dispersion management has the potential to make a significant impact on the realisation of soliton communication systems. It provides major performance benefits, and has the distinct advantage of requiring only passive components. While, in a preferred embodiment, we have used equal lengths of two different fibres, alternative embodiments may use discrete dispersion compensators (C) fabricated from highly dispersive materials as shown for example in Figure 6. The adoption of dispersion management represents a convergence between the techniques used in soliton and NRZ formatted transmission.--